

Minutes of Special and Regular Meeting of May 22, 2018
One Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA

SPECIAL MEETING

CLOSED SESSION [Third Floor Conference Room 360]
Conference With Labor Negotiators (Govt Code Section 54957.6)

Agency designated representatives: Greg Scoles, City Manager

Employee organization: AFSCME

STUDY SESSION [City Council Chambers, 6:15 p.m.]

Recology Franchise Agreement

Public Works Director Oskoui stated that the purpose of this study session was to provide an update on the status of negotiations on an extension of the franchise agreement with Recology for solid waste service. He pointed out that the current franchise agreement expires in 2020. He noted that since the last progress report in November of 2017, eight of twelve member agencies have ratified new agreements.

Shawn Koorn, solid waste consultant, outlined key objectives of the agreement. He pointed out the need to determine a fair method regarding rates and compensation, and that there is a desire for a smooth transition and stable rates going forward. He reviewed the rate setting methodology. He clarified the need to establish a new base line that includes no true-up costs. He explained that a rate stabilization fund would be set up to offset the 2021 rate adjustment. He noted that a fee would be applied to the 20-gallon cart customers as a way to match the actual cost of service for that cart size. He described rate setting for 2022-2035, which will be based on the new baseline in 2021 with CPI (Consumer Price Index) increases. He described the new carry-forward provision for increases exceeding five percent in any given year. He clarified that all annual increases would be subject to the Proposition 218 hearing provisions.

In response to Councilmember Lieberman's inquiry to ensure that there is no rate spiking in 2021 that would affect the new baseline, Recology General Manager Kelly indicated that 2021 rates have already been established.

In response to Councilmember Hurt, Consultant Koorn indicated that the cost to provide service, plus pass-through costs, namely disposal costs, are the majority factors in rate increases. Public Works Director Oskoui described disposal costs. He pointed out that recycling is free to customers but there is a cost involved in collecting and recycling. He explained the commodity issues that are occurring with China.

Councilmembers commented regarding the high level of service provided by Recology over the past eight years.

Attended by: Councilmembers Lieberman, Hurt, Stone, Mates, Kim

Terri Cook

ADJOURNMENT 6:55 PM

**REGULAR MEETING
CALL TO ORDER 7:05 P.M.**

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Lieberman, Hurt, Stone, Mates, Kim
Councilmembers Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by City Clerk Cook

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Rennie noted there were no reportable actions from the Closed Session held earlier.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Laurie Meyer, Belmont resident, commented regarding the negative impact of the Farmhouse Restaurant on her neighborhood.

Mary Morrissey Parden, Belmont Chamber of Commerce, announced Belmont Hardware's 80th anniversary in Belmont, and the upcoming Waterdog Run and Carlmont High School's Alumnifest.

COUNCILMEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Mates announced an upcoming teen study night at the Belmont Library, HEART's (Housing Endowment and Regional Trusts) first time homebuyer workshop and fundraising event. She pointed out that the City Manager's weekly update provides good event information for the public.

Councilmember Stone outlined upcoming Get Us Moving (GUM) townhall meetings.

Councilmember Hurt announced an upcoming Housing leadership annual meeting.

Councilmember Lieberman expressed appreciation to the Public Works staff for its diligence with traffic issues surrounding the spotlight installation at Ralston Avenue and South Road.

Mayor Kim announced the upcoming Public Works Open House and barbecue. He noted that he has been meeting with various City partners.

QUESTIONS REGARDING ITEMS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

In response to Mayor Kim, Public Works Director Oskoui described the criteria and selection process used for vendor selection for the Ralston Corridor project based on State law. He noted

that CSG was deemed the best qualified vendor.

ITEMS APPROVED ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Resolution 2018-040 authorizing a Task Order with CSG Consultants, Inc. for transportation design services for the Ralston Avenue Corridor Improvement Project Segments 4 (Phase 1), for an amount not to exceed \$278,090

Resolution 2018-041 and **Resolution 2018-042** authorizing the City of Belmont to reimburse itself for capital expenditures incurred earlier than 60 days prior to the issuance of debt

ACTION: On a motion by Councilmember Stone, seconded by Councilmember Hurt, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

Introduce FY 2019 Proposed Budget

Finance Director Fil described the City of Belmont's stable operations and robust upcoming capital program. He described the accelerated pension obligation payoff. He noted the need to address aging infrastructure and explained that Measure I funds will help. He outlined the staffing plan. He briefly described the Belmont Fire Protection District budget, which includes the shared service agreement.

Deputy Finance Director Paras outlined budget assumptions that were used for demographics, revenues, operations and capital improvements, and pointed out that the budget complies with existing policies. She outlined revenue, expenditure and staffing trends as well as capital and retirement obligations.

Finance Director Fil reviewed the City Council's top four priorities as well as seven-year projections.

Department heads presented individual staffing plans, key responsibilities, major accomplishments, objectives, and contribution to Council priorities.

Public Works Director Oskoui provided an overview of the upcoming capital plan.

Councilmember Mates expressed appreciation for the good financial position the City is in. She expressed support for the conservative approach to budget development.

Councilmember Stone expressed appreciation for the information on pension issues. He noted that the budget is a statement of Council priorities and is a time for reflection. He pointed out that the City of Belmont has one of the lowest FTE's (full time equivalent employees) in the region. He complimented staff on high level of customer service.

Councilmember Hurt noted that the budget reflects the will of the City Council to put a dent in infrastructure needs.

Councilmember Lieberman expressed appreciation for the five-year trend information.

Mayor Kim noted that the City staff is efficient, and the City Council needs to ensure that staff has the resources it needs. He pointed out that the budget is progressive and is aggressive in capital projects.

Economic Development Subcommittee Report

Barry Foster, Economic Development consultant, provided information regarding TOT (Transient Occupancy Tax). He pointed out that the City of Belmont has one of the lowest TOT's in County, which was last modified in 1978. He described the process for a potential ballot election if there is a desire to increase TOT.

Mayor Kim described the general nature of discussions by infrastructure subcommittee to address economic development.

Councilmember Lieberman noted that an increase in TOT was discussed in previous years. He pointed out that the time may be appropriate to take the matter to voters.

Mary Morrissey Parden, Belmont Chamber of Commerce, commented regarding the 2009 economic development committee and Council discussion about TOT. She expressed concern regarding a potential future recession, and pointed out that there has not been much recent public discussion or outreach about TOT.

Councilmember Lieberman concurred that outreach is needed, and he expressed support for further discussion on this matter.

Councilmember Hurt pointed out the need for the City to diversify its revenues. She supports outreach and discussion.

Councilmember Stone expressed support for moving forward to a 12 percent TOT, and concurred with the need for more outreach. He pointed out that the Economic Development Committee's charge is to address the business community, and he was unaware that TOT was part of that charge. He noted the need to involve the community more, and suggested forming a separate TOT committee.

Councilmember Mates expressed support for increasing the TOT and for more outreach to stakeholders.

City Manager Scoles explained that the committee wanted the City Council to have opportunity to discuss this matter since other cities are beginning to address TOT, and there is a timeline for the November ballot.

ACTION: On a motion by Councilmember Stone, seconded by Councilmember Mates, and unanimously approved to continue discussion and outreach regarding a potential ballot measure to

increase the TOT.

(At this time, being 9:30 P.M., Councilmember Lieberman left the meeting.)

Council Placemaking Subcommittee Update

Councilmember Hurt noted that the committee's goal is to liven up underutilized public spaces around Belmont.

Community Development Director de Melo explained that the Placemaking committee is an extension of the efforts of the Belmont Village Specific Plan's focus and could be a catalyst for the implementation of that Plan. He noted the Utility Box Art Program as an example of placemaking. He noted that the former Emmett House site on Ralston Avenue is one example of property that could be the subject of a placemaking project.

Mayor Kim pointed out that all potential sites are different and will provide different alternatives for placemaking projects.

COMMISSION, COMMITTEE, AND COUNCIL INTERGOVERNMENTAL ASSIGNMENT UPDATES, AND STAFF ITEMS

Verbal report from Councilmembers on Intergovernmental (IGR) and Subcommittee Assignments

Councilmember Mates reported on a recent PCE (Peninsula Clean Energy) legislative committee meeting.

Councilmember Stone reported on a recent San Mateo County Library meeting.

Councilmember Hurt reported on a recent Sign ordinance subcommittee meeting.

Mayor Stone reported on a recent YAC (Youth Advisory Committee) meeting and a C/CAG meeting.

Verbal report from City Manager

City Manager Scoles noted the upcoming Public Works Open House. He reported on the status of the access card system update for City Hall. He provided data on the recent County-wide gun buyback event.

MATTERS OF COUNCIL INTEREST/CLARIFICATION

Strengthening the City's Commitment to Public Safety

Mayor Kim noted that this was a continuation of the discussion on public safety that began at the May 8th Council meeting. He noted that he and Vice Mayor Hurt have been working with staff to discuss public safety.

Police Captain Psaila described the existing weapons destruction program and noted that the City

of Belmont contributed to the recent gun buyback program. He also described the ongoing project where trigger locks and gun locks are provided to residents, and he outlined community education programs regarding the safe storage of weapons.

City Manager Scoles described the outreach that was performed for the proposed resolution regarding public safety.

Karen Shane, Belmont resident, expressed support for the resolution. She suggested looking at other countries that have stricter gun laws.

Kamal Hubbard expressed support for the resolution.

Mayor Kim noted that there is not much the City of Belmont can do to affect change, but that a statement can be made with the proposed resolution.

Councilmember Stone provided further edits to proposed resolution to further clarify the document.

ACTION: On a motion by Councilmember Stone, seconded by Councilmember Hurt, Resolution 2018-043 Strengthening the City's Commitment to Public Safety and Supporting Comprehensive Action to Protect All People from Gun Violence was unanimously approved (4-0, Lieberman absent) with the edits as provided by Councilmember Stone.

ADJOURNMENT 10:05 P.M. in memory of Mark Stillwell, Belmont native and former Belmont Police Department Reserve Officer.

Terri Cook
City Clerk

Meeting televised and webstreamed.